

8/19/54

F ~~1/17/55~~ - 2/17/55

Specific Military Actions

Incident: QUEMOY 54 #55

M 2/6-16/55

Date: 1954-55

Unit

Actions

Initiated

Terminated

Revealing Source

US 7th FLEET  
ELEMENTS

CHINESE COMMUNIST - NATIONALIST CLASHES -  
US RESPONSE - BOMBARDMENT BEGINS

AUG 54  
SEPT 54

APRIL 55

US 7th FLEET HISTORY  
Serial 00575P

① 19 AUG - 7th FLEET DESTROYERS  
VISIT TACHENS - MAJOR ELEMENTS OF  
FLEET ASSEMBLE NEARBY.

② 3 SEPT - HEAVY COMM. BARRAGE ON  
QUEMOY APPEARS TO BE PRE-INVASION  
ATTACK - FLEET ASSEMBLES IN AREA  
AGAIN, REMAINING UNTIL THREAT  
LESSENED.

B

③ 5 NOV. - INVASION OF TACHENS APPEARS  
IMMINENT; FLEET ASSEMBLES TO AID  
IN DEFENSE - NO INVASION  
MATERIALIZES, FLEET RETURNS TO  
NORMAL OPERATING AREAS.

④ AFTER EVACUATION OF TACHENS,  
FLEET CONTINUES RECON MISSIONS  
CLOSE TO MAINLAND TO DETECT  
ANY POTENTIAL ATTACK ON FORMOSA  
OR PESCADORES.

3 Sept, 54

Nov, 54

"Memorandum for Director of  
Naval History and Curator for  
the Navy Department" from  
G.C. Donaldson, Jr. 20 Aug, 69

Probably  
24 elements

7th Fleet elements

to Tachens area

Source:

Specific Military Actions

Incident: Tachen, 55

Date:

Unit	Actions	Initiated	Terminated	Revealing Source
<p>Seventh Fleet— 1 AGC, 4 APAs, 2 AKs, 2 APDs, 2 LSDs, 1 AKA, 1 AKL, 1 DE, 4 LSTs, 2 LSTs, 3 LCUs, marines, aircraft, helicopters, underwater demolition teams, medical support carriers Yorktown, Kearsarge, Essex, Wasp, Midway (Task Force 77)</p> <p>→ battalion Comair History, p. 88 of the WMC</p>	<p>evacuation of Chinese Nationalists from island of Tachen islands at Chinese Nationalists' request</p>	<p>5? 6 - Feb, 55 (See Below)</p>	<p>12 Feb, 55</p>	<p>"Short of War" documented bibliog, U.S. Navy Special List #1</p>
	<p>HEAVY BOMBARDMENT BEGINS BY COMM. OF TACHENS; COMM. SEIZE ADJACENT ISLAND &amp; MADE TACHENS UNTENABLE, RESULTED IN REQUEST FOR EVACUATION (EVAC = 6 FEB → 12 FEB)</p>	<p>JAN 55</p>		<p>ALSO NOTED IN 7th FLEET HNT. SERIAL # 005758</p>
<p>Detachment 2, 7th Air Force</p>	<p>organized at Taipei</p>	<p>21 April, 55</p>		<p>The United States Air Force in the Pacific Hist Div, Div. of Info, Pacific Air Forces Feb 69</p>
<p>5th Air Force</p>	<p>established provisional headquarters at Taipei</p>	<p>25? 20 Jan 55</p>		<p>history 5th Vol 1 Jan-June 55</p>
<p>8th Fighter-Bomber Wing units</p>	<p>moved to Korea ("mobility exercise") various mobility &amp; readiness tests, training, etc goes to Taiwan—immediate combat readiness *planned as exercise, then JCS made it part of Tachen evacuation</p>	<p>2 Feb, 55 27 Jan, 55 31 Jan 55</p>		<p>5th in Formosa</p>
<p>Source: 18 FBW 44th Bomber Squadron</p>	<p>10th 18th</p>			<p>11</p>



SAC B-36's

from CONUS to Guam - part of intensified activity in area

14 + 16 Feb 55 → M

"  
SAC RB47's

pre + post - strike exercises scheduled for exercises in area - use bases in Japan

Fall 55

summer 56

"

May 55

2nd + 3rd Air Rescue Groups

stationed in Taiwan

Jan 55

5th on Formosa

18th wing

standdown after intensive training - rest + maintenance

~~7 Feb 55~~

~~8~~  
9 Feb 55

"

ordered to avoid shooting incidents if possible stay more than 3 miles from PRC but take instant action against communist force demonstrating hostile intent; incl. hot pursuit into enemy air space 7th Fleet Comdr decide on attacks on bases

206 sorties, 184 of them over Taiwan 7th did not want cover for Fleet

9 Feb 55

13 Feb 55

"

3-minute alert for defence of Formosa + Pescadores

alert commitments doubled

Jan 55

5th Air Force fighters in Japan + Korea

18th FBW

~~order to go~~  
begins returning to home bases; 1 rotational squadron to remain on Formosa - 4 planes on alert sunrise - sunset

17 Feb, 55

"

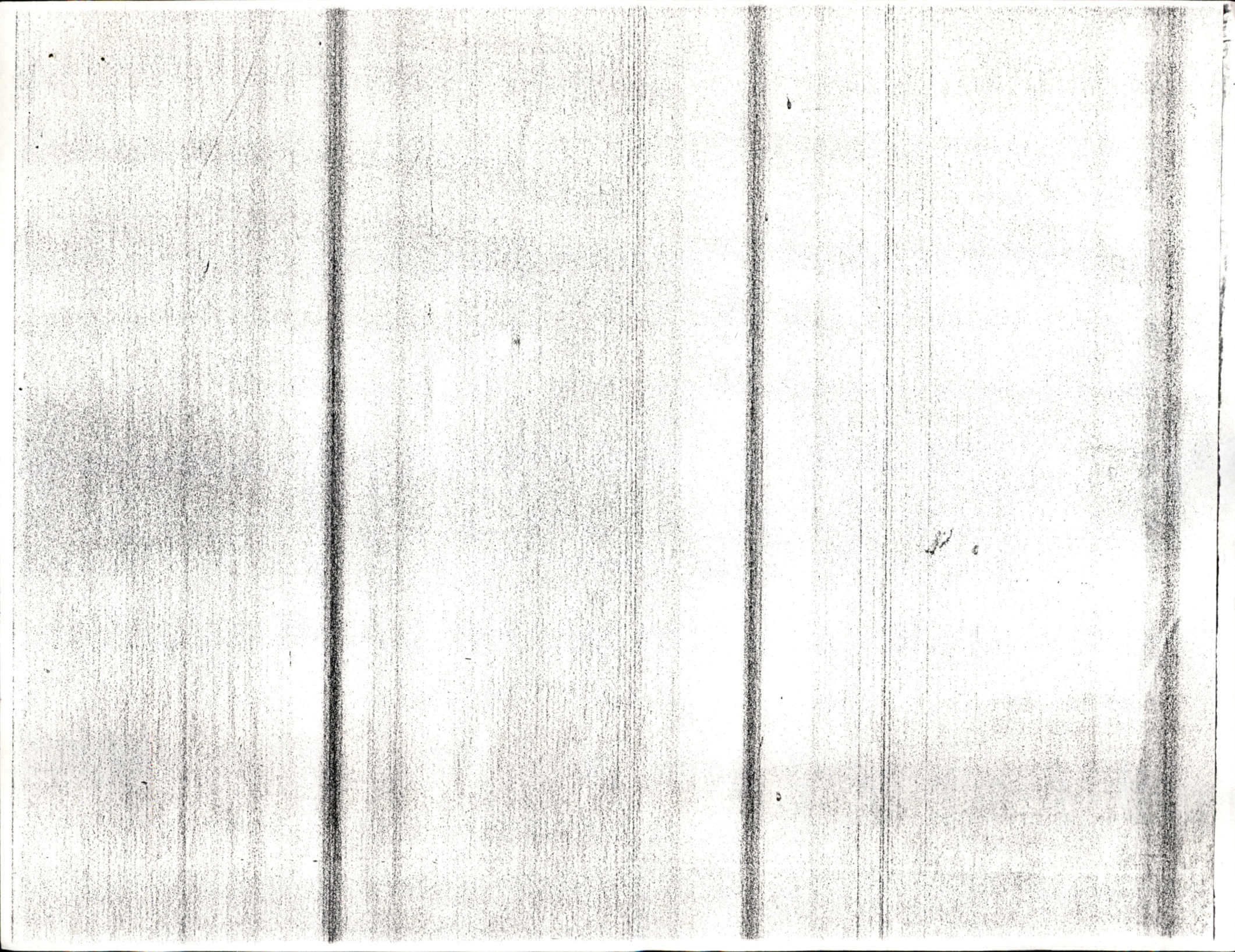
USAF rescue facilities

to be used to rescue Next Chinese pilots - but no closer than 12 nautical miles to PRC to avoid incidents, fighter cover in coastal waters

8 March, 55

"







Specific Military Actions

Incident: Tachen 95

Date:

Unit	Actions	Initiated	Terminated	Revealing Source
13th Air Force	furnishes support for 44th Fighter Bomber Squadron on Formosa - Operation Mother Hubbard	27 Jan, 55		13th AF Jan-June 55
44th Fighter Bomber Squadron	goes from Philippines to Okinawa to join 18th Fighter Bomber Wing - to be ready to defend Formosa order carried out	6 May, 55 11 July 55		11
13th Air Force	establishes 13th Air Task Force (Provisional) in Taipei	1 June, 55		

Source:



Peoples  
Target country: Republic of China (~~Taiwan~~)

Local Situation

Type of regime: ~~dictatorship~~ communist

Incident: Tachen, 55

Names and allegiances of prominent individuals:

Major reaction to incident: continue buildup - 14 jet fighter bases completed by 1 April, 55; building more closer to Formosa;  
rejected st. kept cease fire, threatened "striking back if <sup>the</sup> US bars the way to Formosa"  
observe evacuation; do not oppose

Soviet Union

Other Actors

Action

When

Others

Actor

Actions

When

Republic of China

evacuated islands of Yu Shan & Pei Shan  
daily recon flights over PRC

6-13 Feb, 55  
March, 55 & before  
May, 55

Poland

announced supplying PRC w/ gliders & trainers (training for Soviet  
troop transport gliders?)

6-13 Feb 55

Republic of China

flew anti-sub patrol



Nat. Chinese had failed in earlier attempts to evacuate islands because of Com Chinese actions  
 Chai En-lai said PRC determined to liberate Formosa 8 Dec, 54. PRC redeploying air forces w/in striking distance of Formosa, improving <sup>esp. airports</sup> logistics; navy deployed south; army units, too; this became known once 9th AF on Formosa  
 Diplomatic actions: should carry out recon;

Official	Form	Statements	To whom	Date
Pres. Eisenhower St Dept Eis & Dulles		commits US to helping evacuate Tachen proposes Nat-PRC cease fire refuse to specify which offshore islands will defend		
<u>Other actions:</u>				
Type of action				Date
US-Taiwan Mutual Security Pact Rochester Plan - agreement on defence of Quemoy & Matsu groups <sup>&amp; Pescadore</sup> - conference & improving facilities on Taiwan - US combined operations under 7th Fleet when authorized by US authorities				2 Dec, 54 11 March, 55 - 27 March



U. S. Objectives

Incident: Tachin, 55

Stated:

5th Air Force: "to participate in the defense of Formosa + the Pescadores"

by whom:

5th AF General Order #11  
20 Jan 57

Inferred:

by whom:

Outcome

According to U.S. policymakers (include anticipated applicability to similar situations):

according to target country:

according to outside observers:

A : ① PRC<sup>(11/00)</sup>; ② Taiwan (Chang); ③ SSR



modifications and by Aircraft Industries Assn. on the need for design flexibility and close liaison between the aircraft and simulator manufacturers.

National Security Industrial Assn., through its flight simulator committee, offered data on timing, procurement, target dates and the general state of the art.

Military speakers at the meeting in-

cluded Maj. Gen. N. B. Harbold, director of USAF personnel procurement and training in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, and Brig. Gen. B. S. Kelsey, acting director of research and development in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Development. Col. A. J. Perna, chief of USAF's Special Training Devices Division, was chairman.

## Far East Airpower Showdown Near

Planes of 7th Fleet, equipped with tactical A-bombs, will back up 'fight-if-we-must' doctrine off Formosa.

U.S. airpower assumed new importance in the Far East last week as President Eisenhower laid down his fight-if-we-must doctrine in the face of Red China's threat to invade the Nationalist bastion of Formosa.

The President by implication warned the Chinese Communists that they will have to attack the U.S. 7th Fleet if they attack Formosa, and the fleet will respond by sending its airpower to attack Chinese targets. The 7th Fleet is equipped with tactical atomic bombs and will use these on worthwhile military targets.

► **Tidying-up Operation**—Sources close to the White House called the policy a tidying-up operation. Included are steps to withdraw Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist forces to Formosa and the Pescadores, not only from the Tachens but later from the other coastal islands—including Quemoy and Matsu, located just off the China mainland.

Eventually, it is hoped, all fighting in the area will end.

The President and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, who took the lead in drafting this plan, base their policy on the conviction that the U.S. is infinitely stronger today than ever before, especially in terms of airpower. This strength, they believe, enables the U.S. to force the issue and bring the Formosa question to an end once and for all.

► **Support from Conquest**—Almost as the President acted, three carriers—the Kearsarge, Essex and Yorktown—were dispatched from Manila to reinforce Vice Adm. Alfred M. Pride's 7th Fleet in the Formosa area. They joined the carrier Wasp, already on duty. The Midway also was ordered to the scene, presumably to relieve the Wasp. The carrier Princeton is attached to the 7th Fleet but is located outside the Formosa area.

All of the aircraft carriers are equipped with straightwing Grumman F9F-5 and McDonnell F2H jet fighters.

Pride was reported to have three cruisers and 40 destroyers in his fleet. One of these is his flagship, the cruiser U.S.S. Helena.

► **Backing by Congress**—Congressional support for the President was prompt and virtually unanimous.

Within hours after the request was made, the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the President to employ military forces to secure and protect the Formosa area.

Shortly thereafter the House itself demonstrated its approval of the action by an overwhelming 409-3 vote.

There was some politicking: Democrats maintained that, as in the case of Korea, the President could act without congressional legislation. Republicans, on the other hand, applauded President Eisenhower for bringing Congress into the picture.

► **FEAF Alert**—The Far East Air Forces, commanded from Tokyo by Gen. Earle E. Partridge, is certain to see action if shooting starts.

The Far East Air Forces (FEAF) consists of 14 wings:

- Two light bomber (B-26) wings in Japan.
- Four fighter-bomber (F-84, F-86F) wings. Two are in Japan, one each in Korea and the Philippines.
- Three fighter-interceptor wings (F-86D, F-86F). Two are in Japan and one in Okinawa.
- One tactical reconnaissance wing in Japan. It is equipped with F-84s, F-80s, F-86s and B-26s.
- Three troop carrier wings, plus one extra group, also in Japan. Equipment consists of C-46, C-119 and C-124 transports.
- One Strategic Air Command rotation wing of B-36 bombers is on duty in Guam.

Subservient to FEAF are the 13th AF in the Philippines, the 7th AF and Pacific Air Force in Hawaii. The latter, a new organization activated last sum-

## Britain Acts to Speed Aircraft Production

A special British ministry, organized to give continuity to the prolonged process of development and production of aircraft, is being considered by Prime Minister Churchill.

Churchill's views became known in the course of a House of Commons discussion on aircraft production.

► **'Appalling Delay'**—Laborite Woodrow Wyatt proposed that the system now governing production should be overhauled completely in view of the "appalling delay" in deliveries. Churchill replied that the increased complexity of modern aircraft, coupled with the rapidity of new developments, was such that the process of construction exceeded the "life" of an individual Minister of Supply as much as three times.

"It certainly raises in my mind," Churchill said, "the broad general question of whether a special ministry should not be recreated to deal with the prolonged process of production."

Churchill rejected a Labor suggestion for a committee of inquiry to investigate production difficulties.

► **Pre-production Plan**—The Prime Minister said he thought production delays because of accidents, too few prototypes and unfortunate events would not result in a disadvantage to Britain. He believed they would be settled "before the period of comparative safety, in which we are living, has elapsed."

Tendency at the present time is to wait for the long-sought results before making any drastic changes. Production appears to be improving with three squadrons now equipped with Hawker Hunters. Delivery of Vickers Armstrongs Valiants has started, with present schedules calling for two a month. The first production Avco Vulcan will be rolled out in a few weeks.

In addition, Britain also has adopted a version of the USAF Cook-Craigie plan, designed to close the gap between prototype and full-scale production. The Ministry of Supply is using this plan in the English Electric P.1 project. A pre-production order for 21 aircraft has been placed.

## Temporary Rents Set On Government Tools

Interim regulations setting rental charges for government-owned machine tools used by defense contractors have been issued by the Pentagon.

The instructions will be enforced, according to T. D. Pike, A.

bombers - In addition to the